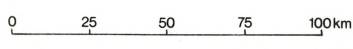
# PAKISTAN
## REFUGEES IN N.W.F.P. AND PUNJAB

- Main Roads
- Secondary Roads
- Tracks
- Railways
- Rivers
- Airports
- Regional Boundaries
- Areas of Refugee Concentration
- UNHCR Main Offices
- UNHCR Field House
- Designated Departure Point
- Repatriation Routes

Reg. Pops. May 1990

| Movement expected from: | Persons | Families |
|---|---|---|
| ① Chitral/Dir | 60,000 | 10,000 |
| ② Bajaur (plus part Dir/Mardan) | 266,319 | 40,822 |
| ③ Peshawar/Abbotabad/Mansera/Mardan/Orakazi/Malakand/Mohamad/Swat | 935,313 | 167,902 |
| ④ Kohat/Kurram | 580,288 | 83,031 |
| ⑤ Bannu/N.Waziristan/Mianwali | 316,122 | 46,583 |
| ⑥ D.I.Khan/S.Waziristan/Mianwali | 264,905 | 43,811 |
| | 2,422,947 | 392,149 |

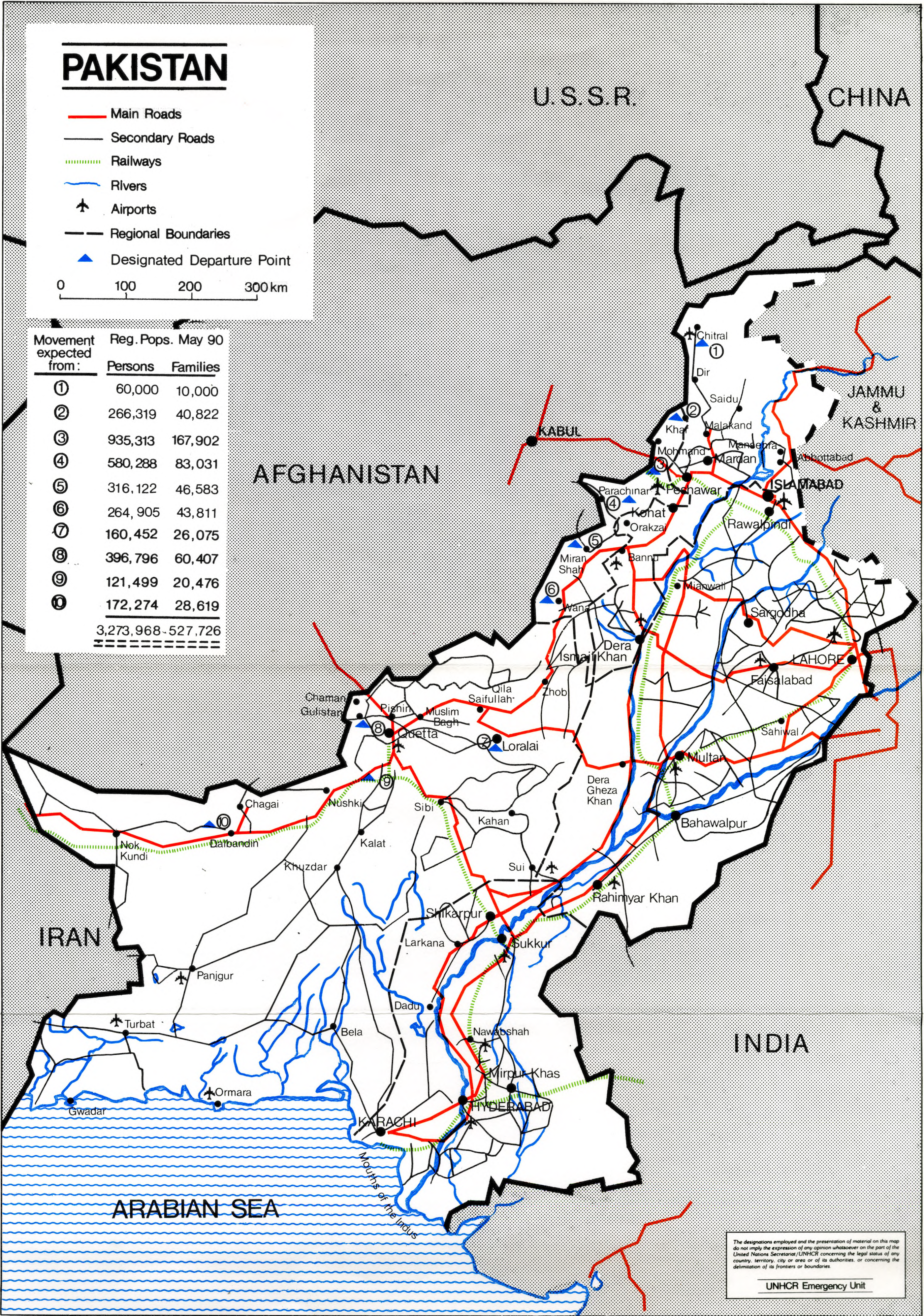
AFGHANISTAN
PAKTIKA
PAKTIA
KUNAR
NANGARHAR
Chitral
Drosh
Dir
Khar
Saidu
Malakand
Jalalabad
Torkham
MARDAN
Mansehra
Abbottabad
Parachinar
Sadda
PESHAWAR
Haripur
ISLAMABAD
RAWALPINDI
KOHAT
Hangu
Thal
Miran Shah
Bannu
Kalabagh
Chakwal
Isa Khel
R. Indus
Mianwali
Wana
Shahpur
SARGODHA
DERA ISMAIL KHAN
Zhob
FAISALABAD
JHANG SADAR




*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the United Nations Secretariat/UNHCR concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.*

UNHCR Emergency Unit

Rev. 5/90




| Movement expected from: | Reg. Pops. May 90 Persons | Families |
|---|---|---|
| ① | 60,000 | 10,000 |
| ② | 266,319 | 40,822 |
| ③ | 935,313 | 167,902 |
| ④ | 580,288 | 83,031 |
| ⑤ | 316,122 | 46,583 |
| ⑥ | 264,905 | 43,811 |
| ⑦ | 160,452 | 26,075 |
| ⑧ | 396,796 | 60,407 |
| ⑨ | 121,499 | 20,476 |
| ⑩ | 172,274 | 28,619 |
| | 3,273,968 | 527,726 |

1912X

## NOTE ON VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION TO AFGHANISTAN

**(Pilot Project for the period 15 July to 15 October 1990)**

## A. INTRODUCTION

1. There is increasing evidence that despite the volatile situation in Afghanistan and continued security hazards, a sizable number of Afghans are returning home. Such population movements, generally accompanied by renewed economic activities, have been witnessed by some of the Salam missions despatched to Afghanistan over the last two years, by NGOs reporting on the implementation of projects financed by the United Nations and by UNHCR itself through its programmes of direct material assistance to returnees in Afghanistan. UNHCR field monitors in Pakistan have also noted spontaneous return movements.

2. Available reports indicate that in 1990, this spontaneous movement is gaining momentum. The UN has observed over the last few months, that a large number of families has been returning to Afghanistan each day, mainly from Baluchistan, but also from the North West Frontier Province (NWFP) of Pakistan.

3. Entire returning families are often seen travelling with all of their personal belongings as well as with wooden beams taken from their refugee dwellings. This clearly demonstrates that, in many instances, the ongoing spontaneous movement is a reflection of their intention to re-settle permanently in their places of origin.

4. Following their joint visit to the area in March 1990, the United Nations Co-ordinator for Humanitarian and Economic Assistance related to Afghanistan, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Executive Director of the World Food Programme and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Pakistan have met regularly to review developments and formulate joint policies in consultation with the Government of Pakistan. The pilot project presented in this Note is a part of this process of concerted action.

5. The pilot project is designed to facilitate and promote, both in Pakistan and inside Afghanistan, the reported spontaneous movements. It addresses some of the problems that returning refugees have to face while ensuring that refugee participation is wholly voluntary and that refugees who are not yet able to return continue to receive support in refugee villages. At the end of a three-month period, results would be evaluated in order to adjust accordingly the overall UN strategy. For planning purposes, it is assumed that up to 40,000 refugee families, corresponding to some 250,000 persons, could benefit from this project over the three-month period.

## B. OUTLINE OF PILOT PROJECT

### (a) Repatriation Grant

6. A survey of transport costs undertaken in April 1990 by UNHCR reveals that refugee families have to spend considerable sums for their transport and that of their household effects from camps to their places of origin. Various interviews by UNHCR's Data Collection Teams indicate that refugees consider the cost of transport to be a major impediment to their return to Afghanistan and that many of those returning indebt themselves for that purpose.

7. Given the above considerations, it is proposed to provide each registered returning family with a cash grant of Rupees 3,300 (approximately US$ 150.) as a one-time contribution towards the family's transportation and initial re-settlement costs.

### (b) Food Package for returning families

8. Food security inside Afghanistan is also considered by refugees as a major concern in their decision to repatriate. In many areas, food production and irrigation repair projects financed over the last two years by the United Nations and by NGOs, have already produced significant results. Nevertheless, many returning families now prefer to maintain their entitlement to food assistance in camps even after the majority of the family has in fact returned to Afghanistan.

9. In order to allow the refugees to voluntarily sever this remaining link with the refugee camps, it is proposed to offer to each returning family the equivalent of three months of wheat rations, i.e. some 300 Kgs. Contributions already made to the World Food Programme could cover the requirements of 40,000 returning families. The food, as well as the cash grant mentioned above, would be provided at "Designated Departure Points" in Pakistan. Food will be distributed by the existing Government of Pakistan staff who administer the provision of food in refugee camps, while UNHCR and WFP will monitor the distribution. Costs of the movement from government stocks to the de-registation centres will be assumed by the Government.

(c) De-registration of refugees

10. Refugees who would voluntarily avail themselves of the offers described above will be required to surrender their ration cards which have now been revalidated by affixing forgery-proof stickers.

11. For that purpose, designated departure points staffed jointly by the Government and UNHCR will be established in ten locations near the Afghan border as shown in the attached maps. These centres have been chosen to correspond to major repatriation routes from refugee camps to the main natural crossing points into Afghanistan. All of them are also places where commercial transport facilities and banks are available and where Pakistani Government administrative centres are established. For security reasons, arrangements will be made wherever feasible for banks to provide the repatriation grant upon surrender of the revalidated ration cards. This will be done in the presence of UNHCR.

12. Statistical information gathered at the designated departure points will be fed back to camps of origin within a month and ration supplies at camp level adjusted accordingly.

d) Repatriation routes

13. Ten major routes being used by returning refugees have been identified and are reflected on the attached maps. Some unfortunate incidents involving the harassment of returning refugees and sometimes the confiscation of their belongings have been reported recently. It is the intention of the Government of Pakistan and UNHCR to address this problem by closely monitoring the principal routes between refugee departure points and the Afghan border. UNHCR has been assured by the Government that any anomalies brought to their attention by UNHCR on behalf of repatriating refugees will be promptly resolved. Instructions will be issued to Frontier Corps, Customs Officials and all other relevant authorities to permit refugees to pass with all their household goods and food rations.

e) Assistance within Afghanistan

14. Within Afghanistan, the UN System will follow an integrated approach to the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country. It will provide material assistance to all groups of returnees, according to identified needs, irrespective of whether they were registered or unregistered refugees before their return. The internally displaced persons will, likewise receive humanitarian and economic aid. Priority will be given by the UN System to areas where refugees are returning or likely to return. The Co-ordinator has already taken steps to establish a UN presence in several provinces, including those of likely return of refugees such as Herat, Kandahar, Kunar and Paktika. A fully coordinated effort will be ensured in order to maximize the impact of the assistance activities of the UN System in support of UNHCR to promoting voluntary repatriation.

15. In the areas of refugee return, UN agencies will be required to concentrate their inputs on the following activities directly relevant to voluntary repatriation:

- mine awareness and clearance activities
- provision of food aid, both for vulnerable groups and for "food-for-work" activities
- delivery and distribution of seeds, fertilizers and provision of inputs for crop protection
- rehabilitation of agricultural infrastructure
- health facilities and the provision of essential drugs
- rehabilitation of the educational infrastructure and provision of educational material
- provision of vocational training
- assistance to disabled Afghans
- assistance towards repair or reconstruction of roads, community buildings and habitats.

This assistance will be provided on a community basis and priority will be given to the villages and districts affected by major refugee returns. The principal objective is to facilitate the permanent settlement of returnees.

## C. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

### a) Starting date and duration

16. The commencement date of the pilot project is 15 July. It is expected that within a fortnight the scheme would be fully operational in the Province of Baluchistan and up to three designated departure points in NWFP with others becoming operational soon afterwards. The pilot project phase will have a 3-month duration.

### b) Beneficiaries

17. For planning purposes, it has been assumed that up to 40,000 refugee families could avail themselves of this repatriation offer during the 3-month implementation period of the pilot project.

c) Human resources

18. Given the pilot nature of the project and the short lead time to implementation, it is foreseen that all additional tasks to be performed under the scheme will be covered either through temporary re-deployment of staff already assigned to Pakistan, short-term missions from other countries in the region or from Headquarters, and in some cases, temporary contractual services through NGOs.

d) Logistics

19. All designated departure points and all vehicles patrolling repatriation routes will be equipped with voice telecommunications equipment.

20. For the purpose of rapid movement of personnel manning distant designated departure points or repatriation routes, air transport will be chartered as required.

e) Support from the Government of Pakistan

21. The States and Frontier Division of the Government of Pakistan and the Chief Commissioner for Afghan Refugees/Chief Coordinator for Reconstruction and Rehabilitation have pledged their full support to the operation and will make available personnel for designated departure points and for repatriation routes. They will also undertake to make the necessary arrangements for the security of these teams and of the operation.

f) Prepositioned goods

22. In cooperation with a number of UN agencies including UNHCR and WFP, UNOCA is pre-positioning food and other relief items in returnee-prone areas where Salaam Mobile Units are currently

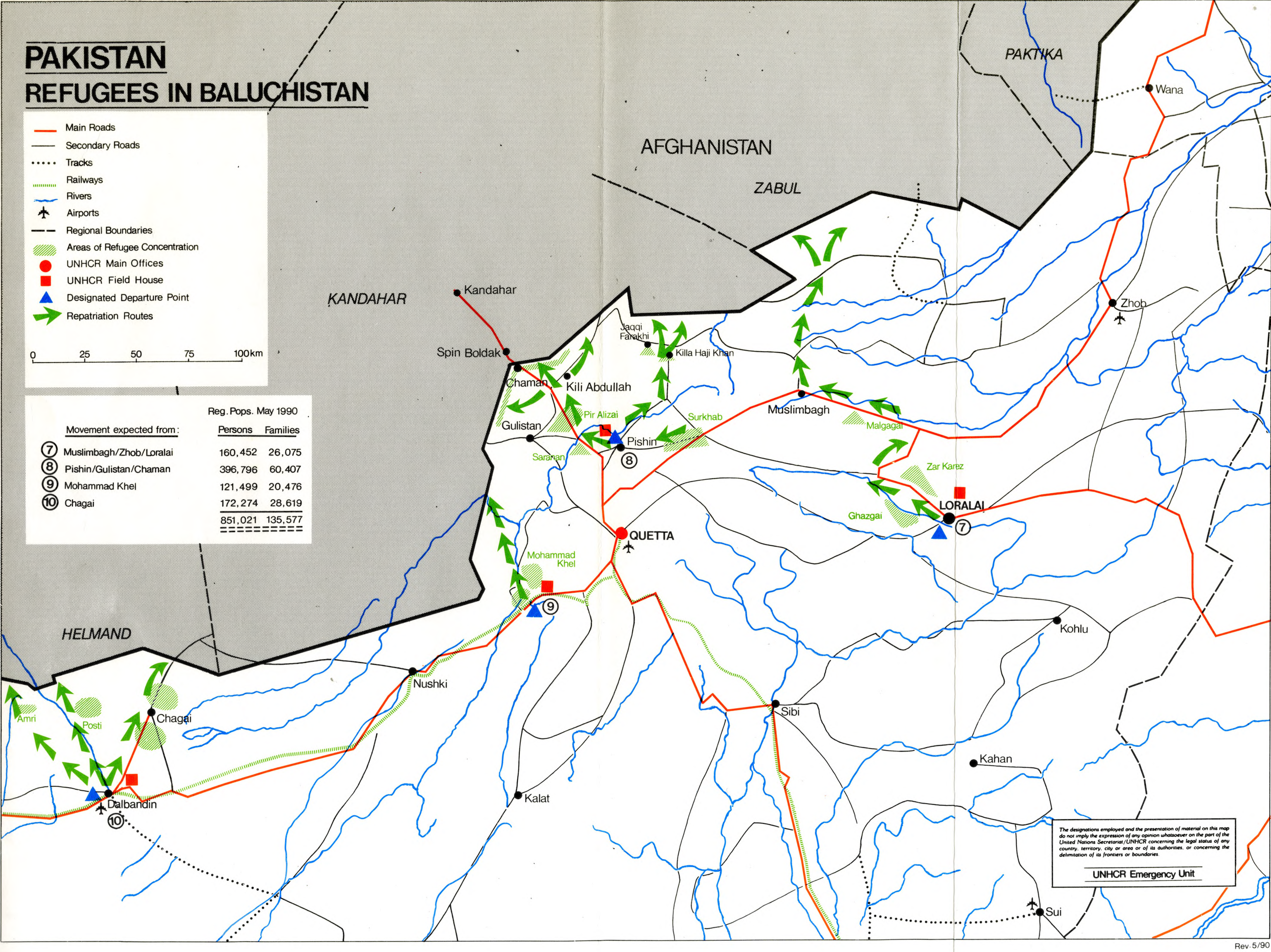
operating. As part of this exercise, UNHCR will initially place small quantities of items such as tents, tarpaulins, quilts, seeds and agricultural tools in warehouses established by SMUs in Kunar, Paktika and Kandahar. As distribution to returnee-affected communities takes place, additional stocks will be sent to the SMUs, using the services of UNILOG.

D. FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS*

| | US $ | US $ |
|---|---|---|
| - Repatriation grants for transport (40,000 families x Rs. 3,300) | 6,028,000. | |
| - Radio equipment (10 Mobile HF installations) | 48,000. | |
| - Installation and equipment of 10 de-registration points | 100,000. | |
| - Administrative support to CAR | 60,000. | |
| - Air transport | 150,000. | |
| - Miscellaneous administrative costs (office supplies and materials for dissemination of information in camps) | 20,000. | |
| - Bank charges | 60,000. | |
| - Transportation of prepositioned goods to Afghanistan | 200,000. | |
| - Establishment of de-registration database (equipment and contractual services) | 20,000. | |
| Sub-Total US $ | 6,686,000. | 6,686,000. |
| - Wheat (40,000 returning families x 300 kgs) (12,000MT x $170/MT) | 2,040,000. | |
| - Ocean freight and ITSH Pakistan up to ($90/MT) Provincial Food Depot | 1,080,000. | |
| Sub-Total US$ | 3,120,000. | 3,120,000. |
| - Wheat (for pre-positioning and rehabilitation) (10,000MT x $170/MT) | 1,700,000. | |
| - Ocean Freight and ITSH Pakistan/Afghanistan ($230/MT) | 2,300,000. | |
| Sub-Total US$ | 4,000,000. | 4,000,000. |
| - Administration and Support costs in respect of Food | 100,000. | |
| Sub-Total US$ | 100,000. | 100,000. |
| **TOTAL US$** | | **13,906,000.** |

* Excluding the cost of major UN assistance activities inside Afghanistan.

# PAKISTAN
## REFUGEES IN BALUCHISTAN




Reg. Pops. May 1990

| Movement expected from: | Persons | Families |
|---|---|---|
| ⑦ Muslimbagh/Zhob/Loralai | 160,452 | 26,075 |
| ⑧ Pishin/Gulistan/Chaman | 396,796 | 60,407 |
| ⑨ Mohammad Khel | 121,499 | 20,476 |
| ⑩ Chagai | 172,274 | 28,619 |
| | 851,021 | 135,577 |

# NOTE ON VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION TO AFGHANISTAN
(Pilot Project - 15 July to 15 October 1990)

UNHCR/UNOCA/WFP
JULY 1990